

# MASSACHUSETTS BELLWETHER.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, FOR THE BENEFIT OF FARMERS AND MECHANICS, AT QUINCY HALL, SOUTH MARKET STREET—WM. BUCKMINSTER, OF FRAMINGHAM, EDITOR.

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## AGRICULTURE.

### CORN CROP AND CONSEQUENCES.

We have been reviewing the question between the late Supervisor of the Plymouth County Agricultural Society, to see if any thing erroneous has been stated on our part—far we would not have a wrong impression left on the mind of any. No incorrect statements are needed to show the importance of farming, or of the article of corn. And surely the Ploughman has no more potent ally than all have to that there is a more important element among farmers on so important a point.

On reviewing the statements which have been made by the Supervisor, and ourselves, we find that the measuring and weighing were done by the same person, and that the same person was used in the weighing and measuring. He says in his letter published in the Ploughman, "that if there has been any mistake, deception, or fraud, the responsibility must be on me and no one else." Again he says, "I am not allowed to say your knowledge of our weighing seems quite too imperfect to justify the remarks made," &c.

We never supposed it necessary to have a person of your knowledge of our weighing to make a mistake. This was all we did a year ago. We weighed the measure was made, and we could then obtain no answer. Those who had looked back in our paper one year will see that we weighed in the most civil terms how the square was in the middle of the acre was measured. But instead of receiving an answer, we and our readers were left without light till the Report for 1849 was published, (see Ploughman of Dec. 22, 1849.) In that Report the Editor of the Ploughman is called up, and invited to criticize again if he dares; and the public are told that the favorite mode of measuring adopted by the Ploughman is "impracticable." Yet it seems the Supervisor has actually shaped that very mode in the case of one of the applicants for premium, and only 114 bushels of corn were found on the acre? "This land," says he, "is comparatively poor." This was planted a bush, and there were just 4000 on the acre—twenty five hills of this acre were measured off, and in 1600 part of 4000 hills. And this for a square rod.

How very poor this acre was we are not told; but we suspect, after all, that this "impracticable" mode of measuring, adopted by the Supervisor, will be more satisfactory to most of his readers, than the mysterious mode that the Ploughman has made out. There is quite a difference between 141 bushels and 114 bushels per acre; whether owing to inferior land or inferior measure, the Supervisor may know best. But in our part of the country it is not often that corn on inferior land is offered for premium. So also it is seen in the Report of last week that when the Society required the corn to be actually measured, in 1849, 78 bushels obtained the highest premium. Our readers will see we are acting only on the alternative in this matter of 1849, whatever our opinion before that year. We were more than once accused of "unfairness," once of ingratitude, and once of ignorance of the mysterious mode of measuring adopted by the Supervisor. But we have published his whole letter. All is on record. Let us compare some disjointed parts. In his Report copied into our paper of Dec. 23d, he says—"the corn was harvested immediately after a rain, and was very wet, and considerably increased in weight." But in his letter of last week he says, "it was explicitly stated in the Report that the corn was harvested immediately after a great rain, in the following January." This would not be very material of itself, but the last deduction was actually made from the 141 bushels on account of a great rain, or of any other rain—though it is admitted that 10 per cent. might properly be deducted.

Now if we take ten per cent. from the 141 bushels, we have 126 bushels and a fraction on the acre. Our readers will judge whether the Report would not be more "fair" with the great rain taken out of the corn, than to put the whole into the corn. One single quart in each hill will make 125 bushels per acre. We have supposed that this amount may possibly be grown, because we have measured a few hills that have yielded at that rate. But we have never seen a whole acre of such corn—not because we never measured and never measured, for we have done both.

In the Supervisor's letter, published in last week's Ploughman, much room is taken up to show our unfairness, as well as our ignorance of the mysterious mode of measuring corn. The writer complains that we are talking about "merchantable corn" while he is reporting the sound and the unsound—the whole crop. But our readers will see we said nothing about "merchantable" corn in our criticism on his Report. No such term was used, and no such idea was conveyed. Our friend must have seen this if he had examined his usual shrewdness. And while he has so much to say of the "unfairness" of critics we advise him to examine first and see what the Ploughman is before he makes complaint. True we made an independent offer of ten dollars for 125 bushels on one acre—the corn to be merchantable. But this had nothing to do with the Report. We never intended that the Supervisor should sort out the merchantable corn.

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### HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION.

In another part of this paper will be seen an article on this subject copied from the New Bedford Mercury, and some comments upon it. We think it is time for farmers and mechanics to wake up and let their voice be heard. Politicians have flattered farmers long enough. Something better is wanted. Why not do something that will be of substantial service to these classes which will be of no use to one else?

Members of Congress and Members of the Legislature are frequently expressing the wish that something may be done for the honor and dignity of the farming interest—that farmers may be respected as well as other people. Yet they very rarely see an unfortunate farmer turned out of his little hut, and off from his last acre, for a debt contracted at a shop—for goods that were trusted out,

on the strength of the clause in the law that all the land of a debtor may be set off on execution to a creditor, let the nature of the claim be what it may.

We shall not undertake to question the justice of the existing laws on this subject. It was once considered, just to permit a creditor to sell a debtor and all his family into servitude till the debt was paid. In the United States this has not been practiced—but within the present age it has been the custom to permit a creditor to take on execution nearly all the personal property of his debtor. And in most of the States every foot of land may yet be taken and set off on execution.

In Massachusetts certain specified articles are exempted. A cow, a hog, six sheep; and hay enough to keep the cows and sheep through the winter. As to the summer feed nothing is said.

Beds and bedding also are exempt—the tools of one's trade, and fifty dollars worth of furniture, besides certain books—the Bible and the school books.

Yet any creditor may now take the last acre of land—the Homestead—the hut that shelters his family, and the shed that shelters his cow, sheep, and pig. This stands the law of Massachusetts at this day. We have not a word to say of its justice, but would say a few words of the policy of permitting a creditor to turn a debtor out of his home, into the street, or into the Poor-house.

We admit that the obligation to pay all debts is sacred. Let no one suppose it is honest to let a debtor go unpaid while he has any means to pay it. The great question is one of policy. Are creditors generally benefited by the right which any one now has to deprive a debtor of the means of payment? When one creditor shuts a debtor up in prison he injures all the others—he deprives him of the means of payment. This is now generally admitted.

So if he is turned out of his home—of his cheap dwelling—he will be forced to hire at a disadvantage, or go to the Alms-house, where there is no hope for any creditor who pursues, whatever there may be for the debtor.

One objection to the exemption of a home from the execution of a creditor is that it will curtail credit. This is what is needed. There is too much credit given. Let traders and others understand that the last acre is not to be taken to satisfy future contracts and all will be fair. More poor debtors may be collected when the debtor is not pressed too hard than when he is driven to extremity.

Debtors are now let off on surrendering what little they have, and the debt is cancelled. It would be better to encourage the debtor to pay honestly than to swear off or swear off. If the State has the right to cancel debts in consideration of an oath, it surely has a right to exempt a bit of land from attachment and execution.

All debtors are now protected from arrest on civil process provided they shut up and keep their doors closed. The doctrine of the law still is that every man's dwelling house is his castle, and that he shall not be molested therein on civil process. Yet when a stronger man comes, with a Court execution, he takes the castle itself, and has a record made that transfers it to himself—then the debtor must beg.

All who pay taxes are interested to encourage people to keep out of the Poor-house. All such are injured when a poor man is turned into the street. It is to the interest of all to multiply the number of Freeholders. Let us take care in time to prevent the accumulation of lands in the hands of a few. Let us have in New England numerous land-holders, and avoid the dilemma into which England has fallen.

Genial legislators, talk not to us of the dignity of labor or of the independence of the farmers and of the mechanic, while you permit a creditor to take his foot-hold away and cripple his means of support as well as his ability to pay. Let the owners of real estate be multiplied and let the credit system be curtailed. Instead of cancelling debts in Chancery execution, let us have a law. Harsh means are not resorted to by wise creditors. But there is so much individual folly that there is need of interference on the part of the State.

FIXE PRO. A pig of the Suffolk breed, thirteen months old, and weighing four hundred and seven pounds, was exhibited the past week at stall No. 28, kept by Messrs. Field & Richards-Faneuil Hall Market; it was fitted by Isaiah W. Kimball of Charlestown (Mass.) and bred by Mr. Leonard Richards of Dexter (Maine), who keeps the stock for sale. It was one of the best shaped pigs ever exhibited in the market.

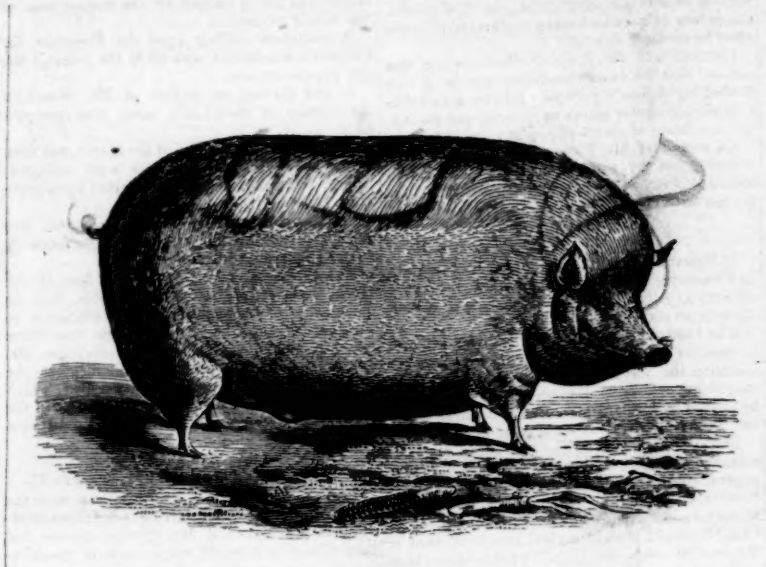
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. The following arguments in favor of exempting a man's home from attachment, we find in one of our Western exchanges—  
There are two leading reasons which ought to have great weight. The first, is the direct tendency of exempting the homestead from debt to the security of the family, both in the present and in the future. It will keep the family together by keeping them at home—safe from all the storms of adversity. Now, the State has a duty to perform in this respect. It is to protect the family, and the unity and prosperity of the family. The whole is made up of its parts. Society is founded in the family. If no family is driven out to seek a precarious support—the State will have no paupers to maintain. In every state of society, no matter what the laws, the solvent must maintain the insolvent. In both the natural and Christian state of society it is the duty of the members of a family to be kept united, and if they can have a home to rely upon, it is almost certain they will be able to do it.

There is another reason almost equally strong, and which concerns the political health. There is no independence, strictly speaking, to be relied upon among people who have neither a homestead nor the means of getting one. Many of our laborers do get homesteads, saved from the profits of their labor. This should be encouraged—the whole community should be made independent, if possible.

Copy the above from the New Bedford Mercury, a leading and able Whig paper of New Bedford. This is the first intimation in the Mercury that the Homestead exemption doctrine is a favorite there. We are right glad that so influential a paper as the Mercury is favorable to this doctrine.

Let us hear no more of the respectable standing of farmers while the law permits a creditor to seize the last acre and turn the farmer's family into the Poor-house to be supported principally by other farmers.

It is not the interest of men of property—of the payers of taxes—to permit a trader or any other creditor to run up a bill large enough to deprive an honest family of a home. Credit is already too far extended, and measures ought to be taken to curtail it. We cannot begin too soon. [Editor.]



MR. TUTTLE'S MACKAY PIG.

This cut represents very accurately a hog owned by Mr. Joseph Tuttle of Rochester. The drawing was made at our request by Mr. Benj. Nutting. The animal measures a little more than six feet in length; six feet and one inch in girth—in the center of his body six and a half feet.

His snout is short, head and eyes small, ears small. The leg we clasped with the finger and thumb and it measured just six inches, round, two inches of course in diameter. The belly came within three inches of the floor when the hog stood up. The back is very broad and the coat of hair is thin.

The pig was procured by Mr. Tuttle of Mr. Nathan Robbins, who keeps at stall 35 of this market. The breed is nearly pure Mackay. The hog is about one year old. It is to be killed soon, when we shall give an account of its weight and age.

We have taken special care to have an exact portrait of this hog, and have been at much expense, because some of our readers have supposed that the cut which we published in January 1849 from Mr. Colman's European Agriculture, was a fancy sketch, and better than any real animal that ever existed.

We consider this a superior form compared with that which we have seen this and know it to be a correct likeness.

[For the Ploughman.]  
SUCCESSION IN BUSINESS.

MR. EDITOR.—The question is often asked, why so many fail in business? We admit that it requires more of greater business talents, and judgment, than it did formerly when almost every kind of business was pursued without competition.

But one of the most fruitful causes of the want of success in the business of life, may be traced to that propensity of the human character which prompts it to be dissatisfied with its present condition. We find men, every day, changing their pursuits, to which they have accustomed themselves, and engaging in occupations, which may be unsuited either to their habits or capacity. It cannot fail to strike the most ordinary observer, that the men who have earnestly devoted themselves to the business or profession to which they were educated, and who have looked solely to the result of their accustomed labors and pursuits, for their reward, are, universally, the most prosperous and happy. Look at the farmer, whose old homestead has been occupied by him, from his youth up, and we will guarantee that man has amply reaped the rewards of patient toil, and of active and manly enterprise. So it is with every class of men, no matter what their pursuits. Of late, in nothing is the discontented disposition, to which we allude, been more clearly evinced, than in the California gold diggers.

The result of the brick-layer who fell from the wall of a house and broke his leg—What did he do? He prayed to Jupiter to abolish the law of gravitation; for, if that law had not existed, he would not have fallen. "Very well," says Jupiter, "I will repeal the law, and restore your leg to a healthy condition." But he soon found he had made a mistake; for, everything he touched partook of the character with which he was invested, and refused to gravitate. He could not throw the brick upon the wall, for it would not fall. He could not descend the ladder, for his limbs would only move in a horizontal direction. So, as the last resort, he attempted to leap from the wall. But here he found himself suspended in mid-air. This last position very sensibly cured him of his discontent; and his prayer to Jupiter, that his natural functions might be restored to him, was answered, and he fell to the ground, with a broken leg, to be sure, but better contented than while enjoying his aerial flight.

Let those, then, who are dissatisfied with the lot into which fortune has thrown them, examine well the result of their affairs, and calculate all the chances that may be against them, for abandoning their accustomed pursuits.

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New Braintree.

THE old man still holds good—"a rolling stone gathers no moss." Some men are too restless, too fond of change, to accumulate property. Some of our most ingenious men are flying to a new pursuit as soon as they have overcome the difficulties they met with in the old. Mechanics are more apt to become uneasy and tired of their several trades than farmers.

In some trades it is true there is but little to excise the mind, and an active thinker becomes tired of a dull routine of business that requires no thought.

But a real farmer can never have that for a plea. He turns his hand to the greatest variety of labor he has always something new before him, and his business requires quite as much thinking as the business of a lawyer or merchant.

The man who "sticks to his trade," calling, has a decided advantage over him who is perpetually changing. Life is not long enough for one to learn many trades in perfection. And if we have we have but few who can afford the time to learn many. Failure therefore is the natural consequence.

Young men set up in business before they have acquired any capital of their own, and on slight changes they fail. These are the two principal causes of failure among industrious young men.

[Editor.]

[For the Ploughman.]  
RECLAIMING LANDS—PLASTER.

MR. EDITOR.—The system of reclaiming worn out lands, by manuring with green crops, has not been practiced to any great extent, in this State, although extensively adopted in some portions of the United States. If we take into consideration, the high price of labor, and the expense of making artificial manures, it is undoubtedly the most economical plan which can be pursued. We find more land, which has been worn out by improvident cultivation, in sections which abound in plain land. Many farms have been nearly ruined, by being rented to men, who thought they must skin them in order to make good. We find more land, which has been worn out by improvident cultivation, in sections which abound in plain land. Many farms have been nearly ruined, by being rented to men, who thought they must skin them in order to make good.

It is not the interest of men of property—of the payers of taxes—to permit a trader or any other creditor to run up a bill large enough to deprive an honest family of a home. Credit is already too far extended, and measures ought to be taken to curtail it. We cannot begin too soon. [Editor.]

grown to advantage without manure on acres that would produce nothing else. Hence the buckwheat may be a clear addition to the whole product of the farm. Suppose a farmer to have ten acres of light sandy loam at a distance from his barn. He may often obtain fifteen to twenty bushels per acre with once ploughing and no manure—here are 150 to 200 bushels of grain in addition to his other harvest—grain that is equal to Indian corn for poultry and for pigs—and fit also for any gentleman's table in the form of hot griddle cakes.

Farmers in olden times suffered their backwheat to stand too long in the field. They threshed it in the field for fear the grains might be mixed with manure at the barn—and they burned the straw! Our correspondent has the right notion of harvesting this kind of grain. When cut in season the straw is valuable for fodder. [Editor.]

[For the Ploughman.]  
APPLES AND PEACHES IN MAINE.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir: Inclosed is two dollars for your much valued paper. I wish to be informed through the medium of the Ploughman, what varieties of the Peach will succeed best in the vicinity of Franklin County, Maine. Can the Peach be cultivated to any extent so far North? Will you inform me, whether the Butcher's Cross, Roxbury Russet, and Rhode Island Greening Apples will thrive in that section of country, if not, what Apples will take their places?

Yours, with respect,  
E. M. SARGENT.  
North Brookfield, Jan. 8, 1850.

[For the Ploughman.]  
APPLES SEEN TO GROW IN MAINE TWO DEGREES NORTH OF SEAS.

Mr. Editor.—I have been to the summit of Mount Katahdin, and have seen the various kinds of the Apples, which are the capital of the State of Maine. In regard to peaches they were a warmer climate than Maine. There are locations where they flourish in open grounds one degree north of us—but it is hard to make the trees live through the winter two degrees north. [Editor.]

[For the Ploughman.]  
SWAMP LAND—HOW BROUGHT INTO ENGLISH MOWING.

MR. BUCKMINSTER, DEAR SIR.—I have a brownish swamp that I drained and cut off the soil and under-wood, and now the water is gone, summer being the large growth of grass standing. Hoping by so doing to invite the blue joint grass to spread over the land, as there were a few small patches scattered over it at the time. But I find that I shall not succeed, as those patches grow not any larger.

I had the past week cut off the ash trees that I had previously left. And now intend to get the same into English grass by the use of hand compost and seed. Therefore will you please to inform me about how many loads of forty bushels each should be put on to the acre, or how deep should be covered to kill out the wild grass and weeds that now grow on it? Also the best time to spread it and the right time to sow and quantity of seed per acre. And how much compost per acre such land requires to have it succeed. The black mud varies in depth from 12 to 24 inches.

Does such land generally grow drier from year to year? For I find the spots that the water was in considerably by driving over it, and it does not grow drier I shall have to ditch it still more.

By giving me all necessary information you will much oblige, and I hope encourage others to do likewise. Yours most truly,  
WELLS FORDS.

Hill, N. H.

[For the Ploughman.]  
Where there is grass it may be necessary to cover such bottoms two or three inches deep. If the meadow is mucky it will be best to cart on when it is frozen. Lay a whole load in a place and not spread by any means till August. Then you need not leave much gravel or sand where the heap was laid, for the ground under it will be subdued and ready to receive the seed.

August is the best time to sow, for November some weeds will come up in the manner, November will kill every one, and your grass will be left pure. Some one peck of herds-grass and three or four pecks of red-top per acre. Clover may be sown the next winter.

Fifteen to twenty ox loads of compost manure ought to be spread on each acre. Such land will grow drier from year to year if the ditches are kept open. And it will become more firm, so as to bear up the team as soon as the grass takes root. [Editor.]

[For the Ploughman.]  
A SUFFOLK PIG.

MR. Wm. Sweeney, No. 99, State street, furnishes the following letter:—  
Sir, respecting the Suffolk Pig, we bought him on the 8th day of July. He weighed one hundred and ten pounds alive. We killed him on the 4th day of October, in the morning. He weighed, when dressed, three hundred and seventy and three quarter pounds. We fed him on common turnip stalks, with once in a while a little meal; but you know it was very hot weather in the time.

Respectfully yours,  
ABEL BURETT & SON.  
Cambridgeport, Dec. 11, '49

[For the Ploughman.]  
This is a very remarkable growth. The time is four days less than three months. From 370 1-4 pounds deduct 110 pounds, the live weight and it leaves 260 3-4 pounds gain—making over three pounds per day! Besides this, it must be remembered that the last weight was after it was dressed while the first weight was not. This would add something to the gain, and make it considerably over three pounds per day. It was weighed by Mr. D. F. Cushing.

[For the Ploughman.]  
HOME.

How delightful is the recollection of home to the stranger in a strange land! How heart-leaving to the individual, who has long since left his paternal roof, to enter upon the stormy sea of life, and buffet the tempest, incident to earthly existence,—to recall to memory the days of his childhood and youth, which were spent in his own happy and cheerful home! Home! the thought of which brings to mind, a thousand pleasant recollections, and associations.

Perchance such an individual might, in a retrospect of bygone days, remember a time, when he did not pay strict obedience to the mandates of a wise and beneficent Father, or was too remiss in listening to the counsel of an affectionate and vigilant mother,—and thus those feelings of remorse mingled with those of pleasure, in a reminiscence of his early days. But if so, he would find himself those days, and live over again—were it possible—in order that he might thereby eradicate from his own mind at least all misgivings of having been an obedient and filial son.

Reader! if you have been blest with kind parents and friends to guide you in your inchoate steps, and shield you from the snares and temptations of youth; if you have been one to participate in the enjoyments of a peaceful and

quiet home,—with a friends circle composed of brothers and sisters and parents—if such has been your lot in times past,—if you have been possessed of such valuable privileges, for affording enjoyment, of which you are now bereft; are you not forced to say, that you never fully appreciated their value, until they were taken from you?—and as you are transported back in imagination, to that early period in your existence, and all the scenes of the domestic circle open up upon your vision, with joyful flowers, bespeaking kindness and affection,—do not your heart swell with the deepest emotions, and your mind love to dwell upon those scenes—which, although fancy with her alluring charms points them before your eyes,—are in reality mingled with the things that were?

But alas! how few there are, who are content with home,—although it be surrounded by all the blessings that tend to render life desirable and pleasant, although the hand of sympathy is ever ready to wipe away the tear of sorrow, with cheer them in their pathway,—if while on life's journey some mishap shall casually befall them, to mar their present happiness or cloud their hopes.

I need not say, that folly is the parent of such conduct. But I am prompted to this inquiry, Is it right, is it just, thus to murmur at the dispensation of Providence by a wise and beneficent Ruler? Should we not, instead of murmuring at our condition,—be ever ready to utter words of praise and gratitude to our Creator,—in consideration of the many blessings which he has bestowed upon us, and the auspicious circumstances in which we are placed—circumstances so advantageously calculated,—not only to furnish us with every comfort of life—but adapted to the highest improvement and elevation of the mind?

Whoever shall glance at these lines, let him pause and reflect. Let him cast his eyes over the world and behold the wickedness, ignorance, and oppression that prevail in many portions of our land. He would be ready to exclaim, happy New England! The land of our fathers! permit me to dwell in her valleys even until my latest breath—and I will cling to my cottage-home, and there listen to the merry sound of the guitar, and the song of birds. For, "be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." J. C. Hopkinton.

[For the Ploughman.]  
SCALDING MILK TO MAKE BUTTER.

MR. EDITOR.—As I have frequently received much information from reading the Ploughman, I feel desirous to give to the public through your valuable paper one or two facts. And first, how to make good butter in winter.

Take the milk from the Cow, and strain it into a kettle, scald it quite hot, (not boil,) turn it into a butter tub, and let it stand till the cream is risen, skim as usual. Before churning, warm the cream properly, say 60 degrees. In this way, I churned last week, in twelve minutes, 23 lbs. of excellent butter.

The second fact. How to make a Cow or Ox milk into butter. Give a pint of strong soap suds. This may be done by putting it in a junk bucket. In this way, I saved a valuable Cow, a few days since. She was badly choked with a Turnip.

Mr. Editor, I admire to read short sentences in the Ploughman, and to the point. Farmers generally deal in simple, unadorned, plain English. ISAAC JENNISON.  
Natick, Mass., Jan. 7th, 1850.

[For the Ploughman.]  
I have no doubt that scalding the milk is a good practice when butter is to be made in winter. All who have tried it speak in its favor.

As to giving relief to choked cattle, we think better of the practice of turning liquids down than of giving a cane or rope. The article soap-suds has given relief in some cases—perhaps it may in all. [Editor.]

[For the Ploughman.]  
OBSTRUCTION IN A TEAT.

MR. EDITOR.—I have a very valuable cow that has sprung a disorder in her teat, which she was engaged in finishing off the lantern, a big cane so near the house it is dense fog, that the crew thought it was some Yankee construction for ploughing the deep, and they at once cried out "Hollo, there you at, mister, what are the workmen replied, "This is a light-house!"

CHARCOAL DUST, AS A TOP DRESSING FOR ORCHIDS, &c. In a correspondence on this subject, from Mr. Thomas Smith to the Secretary of the London Horticultural Society, it is remarked, in substance, that charcoal dust, in a state of minute subdivision or pulverization, was spread upon the ground to the depth of an inch, before sowing the seed, and thoroughly mixed with the surface soil, by sifting with a sieve. Six years' experience had convinced the writer that this material is not only a remedy for the grub and cut worm, but a powerful and effectual preventive against mouldiness in onions, as well as of the disease called "clubbing," in roots of cabbages and cauliflowers.

NOVA SCOTIA WOOD. About 4000 cords of wood have been brought into this port, from Nova Scotia, the past year. The trade began only seven years ago, when a single cargo of 200 cords was brought here during the year. In 1848 there were only about 1500 cords brought in, so that the increase the last year is surprisingly great. The 4000 cords brought in the past year, probably sold for about \$20,000, and we understand that nearly all the proceeds were invested in bread-stuffs and other articles, purchased at our markets. The Nova Scotia vessels generally invest all the money they receive in the markets where they sell their cargoes, and not unfrequently something in addition. [Newburyport Herald.]

COLDS. The season peculiar to colds has arrived. Perhaps one person in five thousand never thinks that a cold may be arrested by attending to it when it first commences. Those who are in the habit of taking cold every year, are in a position to be cured. It proceeds commonly by a tickling in the throat, or by peculiar uneasiness in the lining membrane of the nose and frontal sinus; or by some other well known symptom. Apply heat at once to the part affected; if in mild cases, it will remove it. Or take a small pill, of the usual size, composed of camphor, opium and ipecac in equal parts.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES. The great practical truth and characteristic of the present age, is, that great public improvements are carried out by means of voluntary association. This principle—the principle of voluntary association—of bringing minds together to act upon each other, is the great principle and truth of the age. In regard to the cure, was to be seen centuries ago in the old world. It was to be traced in the establishment of cities in the feudal age; it was still further extended in the professional associations of Europe at a subsequent period. But it has been long—both in the old country and in this—before the idea has been brought to bear upon agriculture and the village of the soil.

CONFIRMATION OF THE SCRIPTURES. Lieut. Lynch, in his Narrative of the United States Expedition to the Dead Sea, says:—  
"We entered upon this sea, with conflicting opinions. One of the party was skeptical, and another, I think, a professed unbeliever of the Mosaic account. After twenty-two days' close investigation, if I am not mistaken, we were unanimous in the conviction of the truth of the Scriptural account of the destruction of the cities of the plain. I record with diffidence the conclusion, as we have reached, simply as a protest against the shallow deductions of would-be unbelievers."

WHATSOEVER you have to do, do it promptly, and if it is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well, whether any one is to see it or not.

ESPERIMENT WITH PLASTER ON CORN. MR. EDITOR. As accurate experience is what I all want, I give below the result of one of my experiments of some of your readers.

Last spring I procured two barrels Plaster of Paris, at 25 per barrel, which was put on 39 acres of corn, with the exception of four strips across the field, that I might observe the difference. Forty-eight rows in the most even part of the field was chosen for the experiment—16 rows plastered upon each side of 16 rows not plastered; all having the same cultivation—the rows 120 lb in length. The corn where plastered grew much faster than the other, which enabled me to work earlier while small, and when out of the stalks averaged about 18 inches taller. When measured, strip No. 1, yielded 35 bushels; No. 2, (not plastered) 28 bushels; and No. 3, 35 1-4 bushels. (There was no apparent difference in the soil.) This gave me 7 bushels, or one-fifth more corn for what cost me only 36 cents.

Yours truly,  
J. T. W.  
Oakland Farm. [Ohio Cultivator.]







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